

SECRET**INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS PANEL****WEEKLY SUMMARY NO. 9**

For week ending 13 July 1948

Conflicting UN and Arab objectives hinder UN Palestine problem. The objectives of the Arab states in the Palestine war inevitably conflict with those of the UN. The security organization is seeking to bring about a cessation of hostilities. The Arabs, on the other hand, are trying to make a political development which has already occurred - the advent of a Jewish state in the Holy Land. This can be brought about by only two methods (a) military overthrow of Israel (b) a negotiated settlement in which Israel would abandon its statehood. The Arabs agreed to the initial four week truce in the hope that the mediator might make some progress toward such a settlement. However, it is clear that Israel will not agree to any arrangement curtailing its independence to an extent satisfactory to the Arabs. This circumstance makes any truce disadvantageous per se from the Arab standpoint because it prolongs a status quo basically unacceptable to them. Therefore, the Arabs are unlikely in the immediately foreseeable future, to recognize the existence of the Jewish state. However, if the Security Council can effectively cut off the supply of arms to the Arabs, they will probably find themselves unable to do anything about the existence of Israel. At such time as actual military and political developments convince the Arabs that this is the case, the road to some empirical adjustment of the dispute may be open.

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USSR may seek CFM meeting on Italian Colonies. The USSR may try to exploit the provisions of the Italian Peace Treaty dealing with disposition of the former Italian colonies as a means of reconvening the Council of Foreign Ministers. This would provide the USSR with the opportunity it now seeks for resuming negotiations on Germany at the government level. The Italian Treaty specifically refers to consideration of the Italian colonies by the 4-power Foreign Ministers. It stipulates that should the Four Powers be unable to agree within one year of the date of the Italian Treaty, the matter will be referred to the UN General Assembly, whose recommendations shall be binding. The USSR may contend that until the Foreign Ministers

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have dealt with the matter, failure to agree will not have been established. By treating consideration of the question by the Foreign Ministers as a condition precedent to reference to the GA, the USSR could find a pretext for repudiating any GA recommendations on the Italian colonies.

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Possible Soviet themes in UNGA. US Embassy Moscow does not believe that the USSR will bring up the German problem or any peace treaty questions at the forthcoming UN General Assembly session in Paris. Soviet policy apparently is still to use the Council of Foreign Ministers and smaller forums where the veto power prevails. The Embassy thinks it likely that the Soviets will exploit their "peace offensive" to the maximum in the GA, attacking particularly the concept of "regional agreements" such as Western Union, the ERP, and the London Conference on Germany. They are also expected to attack Western imperialism in colonial areas, condemning the UN trusteeship system as a new form of imperialist exploitation.

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Little Assembly recommends veto modification. The desultory deliberations of the experimental Interim Committee of the UN General Assembly have been interrupted by a rebellious flare up of the small nations over the veto. The IC has for some time been engaged in a thorough study of the operation of the Security Council and had prepared a report recommending that the Four Power Statement regarding use of the veto adopted at San Francisco be amplified and amended by declaring that certain types of decisions, such as admission of new UN members and the appointment of investigating commissions, should be deemed procedural and thus not subject to veto. However, none of the big five powers (the USSR did not attend) appeared willing to surrender the veto, or take steps to amend the Charter. At this juncture the undercurrent of small power dissatisfaction with the present UN Charter suddenly came to the fore and forced the passage of an IC resolution calling for the convocation of a conference to consider a revision of the Charter under Article 109. Although the USSR has so far refused to take any part in the work of the IC which it holds to be an illegal body, the US, which originally suggested creating the Little Assembly, still entertained some hopes that by pursuing a moderate course of action, the IC may in time recommend itself to the USSR. Now IC's recent action has apparently ended whatever hope there might have been for ultimate Soviet

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cooperation in the work of this body. Furthermore, it is almost certain that the USSR would veto any attempt to amend the UN Charter to its detriment.

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ILO conference emphasizes reduced role of Communist labor. At the recent San Francisco International Labor Conference Communist trade unions received a series of setbacks curtailing their influence in the ILO. Lombardo Toledano, chief of the Communist-dominated CTAL and a key member of the retiring ILO Governing Body, was replaced by the Chilean, Bernardo Ibanez, President of the anti-Communist Inter-American Labor Federation (CIT). A drive by Eastern European delegations to prevent seating Leon Jouhaux, anti-Communist French labor leader, was routed. The World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) was granted consultative relationship with ILO but its role in future ILO meetings was reduced by a grant of similar status to the CIT and the International Federation of Christian Trade Unions. The keynote of the conference was its approval, over Polish and Czech objections, of a convention guaranteeing freedom of association and the right of workers and employers to form organizations of their own choosing without governmental interference.

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Soviet-Yugoslav rift reflected in WFDY move. The World Federation of Democratic Youth, a powerful arm of the Communist trade union movement, revealed the extent of its domination by the Kremlin last week when its Paris headquarters withdrew all requests to the French authorities for travel permits to Yugoslavia. These requests, originally made in behalf of recruits for a Youth Brigade, were intended to facilitate the training of Communist youth groups in Yugoslavia.

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Australian member favors GOC withdrawal from Indonesia. The Australian member of the UN Good Offices Committee, confronted with the impasse created by Dutch refusal to consider the US-Australian compromise proposals for a political settlement, has reportedly given up hope of a political agreement and favors withdrawal of the GOC by the Security Council. He does not wish this admission of impotence to come from the GOC itself, however, and has been trying to get the GOC to ask the SC for new instructions.

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